

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 (original): A putter comprising:

(a) a putter head having a first mass and defining a bottom face, a top face and a striking face which defines a horizontal axis and which extends in a substantially vertical plane from said bottom face toward said top face and extends at least about four inches in a plane substantially parallel with said horizontal axis to define a preferred striking area approximately centrally located on said striking face and extending a distance of approximately one inch in each direction horizontally from the horizontal mid-point of said striking face; and

(b) a shaft having a second mass and extending from the top face of said putter at an angle of from about 8° to about 25° from vertical with respect to said horizontal axis supporting a grip on the end thereof remote from said putter head and aligned so that the vertical center of mass of the putter lies within the horizontal length of said preferred striking area.

Claim 2 (original): A putter as defined in Claim 1 wherein said putter head is geometrically symmetrical about its vertical axis.

Claim 3 (original): A putter head as defined in Claim 2 wherein said shaft extends from said top face at a point between the toe end of said putter head and the vertical axis of said putter head.

Claim 4 (original): A putter as defined in Claim 3 wherein said putter head includes a marker on said top face thereof which identifies the horizontal midpoint of said striking face.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A putter as defined in Claim 4 wherein said ~~mark~~ marker extends in opposite directions from the geometric center of said putter head.

Claim 6 (original): A putter comprising:

(a) a putter head having a toe end, a heel end, a bottom face, a top face and a striking face which defines a preferred striking area approximately centrally located on said striking face and extending approximately one inch in each direction horizontally from the horizontal midpoint of said striking face;

(b) a shaft extending from said top face of said putter head at a position between said horizontal midpoint and said toe end at an angle of from about 8° to about 25° from vertical wherein said putter head and said shaft are arranged and weighted to align the vertical center of mass thereof within the horizontal length of said preferred striking area.

Claim 7 (original): A putter as defined in Claim 6 wherein said putter head includes a marker on the top face thereof which identifies the horizontal center of mass of said putter.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A putter as defined in Claim 7 wherein said marker is equally visible on opposite sides of said shaft when the marker is aligned with a ball to be struck and said striking face is aligned perpendicular to the desired direction of travel of said ball.